

## THE FIRST BATTALION.

Honolulu Rifles Field and Staff Election—Banquet to Past and Present Officers by Lieut.-Colonel V. V. Ashford.

Upon the call of Major Hebbard, commanding First Battalion, Hawaiian Volunteers, the line officers of that corps, better known as the Honolulu Rifles, met at the Army Wednesday evening to elect the field and staff for the ensuing year. The result was as follows:

Major-commanding, H. F. Hebbard. Adjutant, H. C. Myers. Quartermaster, W. W. Hall. Ordnance Officer, C. T. Wilder. Surgeon, John Brodie, M. D.

After the meeting had adjourned Lieut.-Colonel V. V. Ashford, commanding the Hawaiian Volunteers, entertained the past and present officers of the Rifles at a banquet spread in one of the company rooms. A very fine report was spread by Mr. Steiner of the Elite Patrons and served by his attentive waiters. Col. Ashford presiding had on his right Major Sam. Newlin, commanding the Second Battalion, Capt. McCarthy of Co. D, Capt. Ziegler of Co. A, Second Lieut. Wall of Co. B, First Lieut. Wickes of Co. D, ex-Lieut. A. W. Carter, First Lieut. Robertson of Co. B, Second Lieut. Masche of Co. A, ex-Lieut. J. M. Nivas, and then in the vice-chair Capt. Adjutant Hugh Gunn. To the left of the Colonel sat Major Hebbard, ex-Capt. C. W. Ashford, Surgeon, Brodie, Capt. Langley of Co. C, Capt. Fisher of Co. B, ex-Adjutant George McLeod, Second Lieut. Wichman of Co. D, First Lieut. Camara of Co. C, and ex-Lieut. Chan. Wilder.

When the attack upon the commissary had waned, Colonel Ashford proposed the following toast: "His Majesty the King and the Royal Family"—the proposal making appropriate remarks and the health being received with loyal honors.

"His Majesty's Ministers," responded to by His Excellency C. W. Ashford.

"The Honolulu Rifles," Major Hebbard responding.

Volunteer toasts then came thick and fast, the first being "Our Colonel." Col. Ashford, after cordially thanking his guests for the honor enthusiastically accorded him, recalled his pleasant experience as both a member and an officer of the corps. He believed that some kind of a military organization was necessary in this Kingdom owing to exceptional circumstances. In this he did not refer particularly to the presence, in greater or less numbers, of nationalities from Asia, Africa, or any other quarter; but there was a large floating population liable to be acted upon by various impulses, which made it seem essential to have a military force capable of putting down with a strong hand any uprising in the midst of our mixed population. Their wives, daughters and sisters—would enjoy a greater sense of security in the knowledge of there being a potent arm of defense. Without it the conditions made it not only possible but probable that the occasion would arise to show that military organization was necessary for internal protection. A very good motto which was being acted upon now in Germany particularly and in Europe generally was that in order to maintain peace we should be prepared for war. It was just as important a motto when applied to domestic affairs as it was to those existing between the nations. It might not be necessary to keep up a strong force, but it should be an efficient one. He believed that a majority of the voters of the Kingdom, and he did not speak in a political sense, were friendly to the existing military organizations. The same remark was true regarding the men at the head of affairs. He believed that the military bodies at present established would get all the support they required, and that the stability of the country might be safely left to the Hawaiian Volunteer Militia. They should apply this especially to the battalion with which they were connected, whose name it was theirs to maintain and the motto of which was "Semper parati."

Col. Ashford resumed his seat amidst loud applause. Other toasts were responded to by Captain Langley, Captain Ziegler, Captain Fisher and others. Captain C. J. McCarthy responded in a rather provoking manner for "The Ladies," followed in a similar strain by Lieut. A. Robertson, who was later called up to respond to his personal health as Attorney-General of the Debating Club. Major Newlin briefly acknowledged the honors to himself and his command.

Col. Ashford took occasion to propose the health of Capt. H. Gunn, introducing him at the same time as Adjutant of the Hawaiian Volunteers, vice Capt. J. H. Fisher elected to the command of Company B.

The pleasant entertainment, which was conducted on temperance principles, was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

## HAWAIIAN ALMANAC &amp; ANNUAL.

An Excellent Issue of this Standard Handbook for 1889. A perusal of the work named above is convincing that Mr. T. G. Thurman, the compiler and publisher, was justified in announcing it as the best yet published. Besides an enlarged and improved series of directory and reference departments, there are articles by specialists as follows:

"Some Noted Battles of Hawaiian History"—Anonymous.

"Artesian Wells on Oahu"—Anonymous.

"Early Constitution of the Judiciary of the Hawaiian Islands"—Hon. A. F. Judd, Chief Justice.

"Brief History of the Steam Coasting Service of the Hawaiian Islands"—Anonymous.

"First Water Pipe for Honolulu"—Editor.

"Retrospect of the Year 1888"—Editor.

"Introduction of Queensland Cane"—C. N. Spencer.

Neurology of the past year, judicial and other statistics, besides much other matter of value for present and future information, are sandwiched between the more literary articles. Custom House statistics are brought up to the end of September last.

The work is, in short, indispensable for the library, counting room, and professional office.

## THE MINISTRY TO HAWAII.

A Per. of Nevada—Sam Davis, a Carson Editor, Nominated.

The Alta California humorously discusses the probabilities of the Republican nomination for Minister Resident here as follows:

There is one office to be filled upon which the press of this Coast can well afford to unite. The Hawaiian Mission by common consent belongs to Nevada. That State has developed a tendency for Kanaka diplomacy that is not visible elsewhere. While other foreign relations bother us intolerably, we have been at profound peace with the Sandwich Islands ever since Nevada had them in charge, and there is an unbroken halcyon Honoluluwards, though the inter-ethnic affairs of the Kingdom go through convulsions. We want this to continue, and therefore we want Nevada left in charge of the relations which Nevada has created and maintained, and therefore we want the press to do its duty for the service and journalism the honor of urging that Sam Davis, the Carson editor, be accredited as Minister to the Court of Kalakaua. The Republican papers have already broken ground upon the subject, but the work should be general and not partisan. Sam Davis is a Western man. He got his first baptism of printer's ink in frontier Nebraska, when that territory was uncertain whether it would ever be anything but a grasshopper pasture, and he has stuck to Nevada through all mutations with a devotion which is the attribute of genius. This office should seek him.

In the lottery of politics the prizes drawn by newspaper men are few and far between. Journalists laboriously number the tickets and sweat at the wheel and pull out the winnings for others and go unrewarded themselves.

Men and brethren, let us now put every pencil on the Coast behind Sam Davis and with combined plumbago power push him into the Hawaiian Mission.

It is a week's voyage to Honolulu, and when the editorial convention of these States meets in the capital, we want a member of the guild to receive us and teach us how to sock and select the best bananas. The contributions of Sam Davis' pen have lightened and made found many an hour that else would have been hung in black. Let us pay in part the debt that is due him, and by a purely journalistic movement put this natural diplomat in a place that he will fit as perfectly as sage brush does the rugged mountains of his State. Pass the word along the line and make the politicians hear it, and when Sam Davis for the field of his official usefulness we will give him such a send-off as will make the Golden Gate wish it was longer that it might feel for a greater space the delightful sensation caused by the passage of a genuine journalist, speeded by the good will of all the press.

## The Westmeath Seizure.

The San Francisco County Merchant concludes an article on the seizure of the steamer Westmeath's cargo of sugar with the following remarks: The unfortunate feature of the whole matter is that Mr. Spreckels should have thought it necessary, in the protection of his own interest, to file the information which led to the seizure. If the final result proves that the sugar was artificially colored or unadulterated he will consider his course justified. If on the contrary the claim of the importers is sustained, it may be difficult for him to convince the public that he acted in good faith. Every man is justified in using all honorable endeavor to protect himself against unfair competition. Mr. Spreckels is presumed to be an expert in the sugar business. If he has made a mistake, he runs the risk of having his motives questioned. Added importance is given to the matter by reason of the high position of both importers and informer and the public will therefore feel interested in the result.

## A Coming Festival.

At a meeting of the Hawaiian Jockey Club in the Hotel on the 7th inst., Hon. J. A. Cummins was accorded the liberty of the track at Kapiolani Park thence until and including March 17th. It is understood that the honorable gentleman intends celebrating his birthday and the birthday anniversary of Kamehameha III. on that date. There will be an exhibition of horses and other stock with races on the track, and a grand feast or barbecue free to the people at the Park. The Club, as above stated, gives Mr. Cummins the freedom of the entire grounds in the meantime, to enable him to make all needed preparations for the stock show, races and festivities.

## A Manslaughter Trial.

The trial of Waialeale, the policeman, for manslaughter by causing the death of a Chinaman at Koolan, in a combat between police and Chinese, was begun Tuesday with the probability of continuing throughout next day. It was conducted wholly in Hawaiian and Chinese, Mr. Castle conducting the prosecution and Mr. Kanikou the defense. During the taking of testimony the prisoner neatly dressed was vigorously taking notes, so that spectators were wondering if his trial was going on in his absence, all in sight before the tribunal seeming to be lawyers and Court officials.

## Special Notices.

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THOS. G. THURM, Publisher, Honolulu, H. I.

THIS PAPER.

IS KEPT ON FILE AT E. C. BAKER'S ADVERTISING AGENCY, 64 and 65 Merchant's Exchange, San Francisco, Cal., where contracts for advertising can be made for it.

## New Advertisements.

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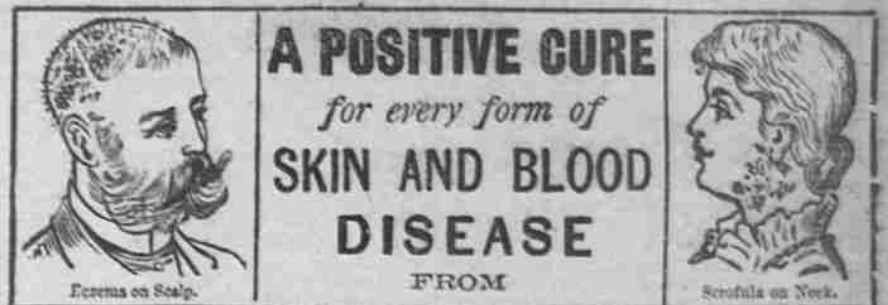
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